Copy for the Elected Office (EO/US)

TATENT COOPERATION TREATY

| | From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| PCT | To: | | | |
| NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING OF A CHANGE (PCT Rule 92bis.1 and Administrative Instructions, Section 422) Date of mailing (day/month/year) 30 January 2002 (30.01.02) | SEPPO LAINE OY Itämerenkatu 3 B FIN-00180 Helsinki FINLANDE | | | |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference VAL 218 PCT | IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION | | | |
| International application No. PCT/FI00/00746 | International filing date (day/month/year) 01 September 2000 (01.09.00) | | | |
| The following indications appeared on record concerning: X the applicant the inventor | the agent the common representative | | | |
| Name and Address VALMET CORPORATION | State of Nationality State of Residence FI FI | | | |
| Fabianinkatu 9 A FIN-00130 Helsinki Finland | Telephone No. +358-020 484 100 | | | |
| | Facsimile No. +358-020 484 101 | | | |
| | Teleprinter No. | | | |
| The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the person X the name the additional that the additional that the person the additional that the addi | | | | |
| Name and Address METSO PAPER, INC. | State of Nationality State of Residence | | | |
| Fabianinkatu 9 A FIN-00130 Helsinki Finland | Telephone No. +358-020 484 100 | | | |
| , mana | Facsimile No. +358-020 484 101 | | | |
| | Teleprinter No. | | | |
| 3. Further observations, if necessary: | | | | |
| 4. A copy of this notification has been sent to: | | | | |
| X the receiving Office | the designated Offices concerned | | | |
| the International Searching Authority the International Preliminary Examining Authority | X the elected Offices concerned other: | | | |
| | Authorized officer | | | |
| The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland | Marie-José DEVILLARD | | | |
| Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35 | Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38 | | | |

Form PCT/IB/306 (March 1994)

ATENT COOPERATION TRICTY

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU To: PCT Commissioner **NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION US Department of Commerce** United States Patent and Trademark (PCT Rule 61.2) Office, PCT 2011 South Clark Place Room CP2/5C24 Arlington, VA 22202 **ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE** Date of mailing (day/month/year) in its capacity as elected Office 08 May 2001 (08.05.01) International application No. Applicant's or agent's file reference PCT/FI00/00746 VAL 218 PCT International filing date (day/month/year) Priority date (day/month/year) 01 September 1999 (01.09.99) 01 September 2000 (01.09.00) **Applicant** KIIHA, Timo et al 1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made: X in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on: 28 March 2001 (28.03.01) in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on: 2. The election was not made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Authorized officer

Claudio Borton

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35



| | From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU |
|--|---|
| PCT | То: |
| NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING OF A CHANGE (PCT Rule 92bis.1 and Administrative Instructions, Section 422) | SEPPO LAINE OY Itämerenkatu 3 B FIN-00180 Helsinki FINLANDE |
| Date of mailing (day/month/year) 30 January 2002 (30.01.02) | |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference VAL 218 PCT | IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION |
| International application No. PCT/F100/00746 | International filing date (day/month/year) 01 September 2000 (01.09.00) |
| The following indications appeared on record concerning: The applicant the inventor | the agent the common representative |
| Name and Address VALMET CORPORATION Fabianinkatu 9 A FIN-00130 Helsinki Finland | State of Nationality State of Residence FI FI Telephone No. +358-020 484 100 |
| | Facsimile No. +358-020 484 101 |
| 2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that t | Teleprinter No. |
| the person X the name the applicant that the add | 하다면서 그렇게 하다. 그 얼룩한테 바다를 확인하는 이번 부터 에 이번 이번 모든 모든 모든 다음이다. |
| Name and Address METSO PAPER, INC. Fabianinkatu 9 A FIN-00130 Helsinki Finland | State of Nationality State of Residence FI FI Telephone No. +358-020 484 100 |
| | Facsimile No. +358-020 484 101 |
| | Teleprinter No. |
| 3. Further observations; if necessary: | |
| 4. A copy of this notification has been sent to: | |
| X the receiving Office the International Searching Authority the International Preliminary Examining Authority | the designated Offices concerned X the elected Offices concerned other: |
| Th Internati nal Bureau f WIPO 34, chemin des Col mbettes 1211 G neva 20, Switz rland | Authorized officer Marie-Jose DEVILLARD |
| Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35 | Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38 |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/FI 00/00746

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: D21H 23/48, B05C 5/02
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7: D21H, B05C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

| C. DOCU | MENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
| Х | US 5885659 A (SHUNSUKE TAKAHASHI ET AL), 23 March 1999 (23.03.99), column 4, line 41 - line 67 | 1,7-11 |
| | | |
| X | US 5624715 A (MARKUS GUEGGI ET AL), 29 April 1997 (29.04.97), column 1, line 60 - column 2, line 35 | 1-14 |
| | | |
| X | US 5340402 A (RUDOLF BEISSWANGER), 23 August 1994 (23.08.94), column 2, line 64 - column 3, line 60 | 1-14 |
| | | |
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| X | Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box | C. | See patent family annex. | | |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|
| * | Special categories of cited documents: | "T" | later document published after the international filing date or priority | | |
| "A" | document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance | | date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention | | |
| "E" | earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date | "X" | considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive | | |
| "L" | document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is | | step when the document is taken alone | | |
| 1 | cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) | "Y" | document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is | | |
| *0* | document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means | | combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art | | |
| "P" | document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | "&" | | | |
| Dat | e of the actual completion of the international search | Date | of mailing of the international search report | | |
| | | | 21 -11- 2000 | | |
| 13 | November 2000 | | | | |
| | ne and mailing address of the ISA/ | Autho | rized officer | | |
| Sw | edish Patent Office | | | | |
| | Box 5055, S-102 42 STOCKHOLM | | Barbro Nilsson/Els | | |
| | simile No. +46 8 666 02 86 | Telephone N . + 46 8 782 25 00 | | | |



International application No.
PCT/FI 00/00746

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| X | US 5820674 A (CYRUS K. AIDUN), 13 October 1998 (13.10.98), column 4, line 66 - column 5, line 45 | 1-3,11-13 |
| A | | 4-10,14 |
| X | US 5688325 A (CYRUS K. AIDUN), 18 November 1997 (18.11.97), column 2, line 46 - column 3, line 50 | 1 |
| A | | 2-14 |
| A | US 5773093 A (KAMEO MITANI ET AL), 30 June 1998 (30.06.98), column 6, line 11 - line 17 | 1-14 |
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International application No. PCT/FI 00/00746

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|----|---------|---|----------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| US | 5885659 | A | 23/03/99 | DE JP | 19735980 A 10057868 A | 26/02/98 03/03/98 |
| US | 5624715 | Α | 29/04/97 | EP JP | 0704752 A 8173879 A | 03/04/96 09/07/96 |
| US | 5340402 | A | 23/08/94 | CA DE FI FI JP SE | 2089918 A 4205313 A,C 98747 B,C 930756 A 5345162 A 9300114 A | 22/08/93 26/08/93 30/04/97 22/08/93 27/12/93 22/08/93 |
| US | 5820674 | A | 13/10/98 | AU EP WO | 3822697 A 0918571 A 9806504 A | 06/03/98 02/06/99 19/02/98 |
| US | 5688325 | A | 18/11/97 | US US | 5354376 A 5366551 A | 11/10/94 22/11/94 |
| US | 5773093 | A | 30/06/98 | DE JP | 19622080 A 9047706 A | 05/12/96 18/02/97 |

| The demand must be filed directly with | the competent International Preliminary Examining Auth |
|--|--|
| with the one chosen by the applicant | full name or two-letter code of that Authority may be |
| | |

if two or more Authorities are competent, d by the applicant on the line below:

IPEA/ SE

PCT

CHAPTER II

DEMAND

under Article 31 of the Patent Cooperation Treaty:

The undersigned requests that the international application specified below be the subject of international preliminary examination according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty and hereby elects all eligible States (except where otherwise indicated).

| Identification of IPEA | | Date of receipt of DI | MAND | |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Box No. I IDENTIFICATION OF | THE INTERNATIONAL | L APPLICATION | Applicant's or agent's file res | ference |
| International application No. | International filing date | e (day/month/year) | (Earliest) Priority date (day/n | nonth/year) |
| PCT/F100/00746 | 1 September 20 | 000 (01.09.00) | 1 September 1999 | (01.09.99 |
| Title of invention | | | | |
| Curtain coater and met | hod for curtain | coating | | |
| Box No. II APPLICANT(S) | | | | |
| Name and address: (Family name followed by The address must include | y given name; for a legal entity, postal code and name of country | full official designation. | Telephone No. | |
| Valmet Corporation | | | Facsimile No. | |
| Fabianinkatu 9 A | | | | |
| FIN-00130 Helsinki | | | Teleprinter No. | |
| Finland | · | | Applicant's registration No. w | rith the Office |
| State (that is, country) of nationality: Finland | | State (that is, countr Finland | y) of residence: | |
| Name and address: (Family name followed by | y given name; for a legal entity, | full official designation. The | address must include postal code and i | name of country.) |
| KIIHA, Timo | | | | |
| 25 Bluemound Ct., Apt | . 6 | | • | ٠. |
| Appleton WI 54914 | | | | |
| - · | ica | | : | |
| United States of Amer: | | | • | |
| United States of Amer | | | | 100 |
| | | State (that is, country United S | y) of residence : tates of America | |
| State (that is, country) of nationality: Finland | given name: for a legal entity, j | | | name of country.) |
| State (that is, country) of nationality: Finland Name and address: (Family name followed by | given name; for a legal entity, j | | | name of country.) |
| State (that is, country) of nationality: Finland | given name; for a legal entity, j | | | name of country.) |
| State (that is, country) of nationality: Finland Name and address: (Family name followed by KOSKINEN, Jukka | given name: for a legal entity, j | | | name of country.) |
| State (that is, country) of nationality: Finland Name and address: (Family name followed by KOSKINEN, Jukka Vehkatie 89 | v given name; for a legal entity, j | | | name of country.) |
| State (that is, country) of nationality: Finland Name and address: (Family name followed by KOSKINEN, Jukka Vehkatie 89 FIN-04400 Järvenpää | v given name; for a legal entity, j | | | name of country.) |

Sheet No. . .

| . | | | |
|----------|---------|----------|-----|
| ernation | nal app | lication | No. |
| PCT/F | 100/0 | 0746 | |

| Box N . III AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE; OR ADDRESS FOR CO | RRESPONDENCE | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| The following person is X agent Common representative | | | |
| and X has been appointed earlier and represents the applicant(s) also for international pr | eliminary examination. | | |
| is hereby appointed and any earlier appointment of (an) agent(s)/common represe | ntative is hereby revoked. | | |
| is hereby appointed, specifically for the procedure before the International Prelim the agent(s)/common representative appointed earlier. | inary Examining Authority, in addition to | | |
| Name and address: (Family name followed by given name: for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.) | Telephone No. +358-9-68 59 560 | | |
| SEPPO LAINE OY Facsimile No. | | | |
| Itämerenkatu 3 B | +358-9-68 59 56 10 | | |
| FIN-00180 Helsinki | Teleprinter No. | | |
| Finland | | | |
| | Agent's registration No. with the Office | | |
| Address for correspondence: Mark this check-box where no agent or common | representative is/has been appointed and the | | |
| space above is used instead to indicate a special address to which correspondence | | | |
| Box No. IV BASIS FOR INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION | | | |
| Statement concerning amendments:* | | | |
| 1. The applicant wishes the international preliminary examination to start on the basis o | f: | | |
| the international application as originally filed | • | | |
| the description as originally filed | · | | |
| as amended under Article 34 | | | |
| the claims as originally filed | | | |
| as amended under Article 19 (together with any accompany) | ng statement) | | |
| as amended under Article 34 | | | |
| | · · | | |
| the drawings as originally filed | | | |
| as amended under Article 34 | | | |
| 2. The applicant wishes any amendment to the claims under Article 19 to be considered as reversed. | | | |
| 3. The applicant wishes the start of the international preliminary examination to be postponed until the expiration of 20 months from the priority date unless the International Preliminary Examining Authority receives a copy of any amendments made under Article 19 or a notice from the applicant that he does not wish to make such amendments (Rule 69.1(d)). (This checkbox may be marked only where the time limit under Article 19 has not yet expired.) | | | |
| * Where no check-box is marked, international preliminary examination will start on the basis of the international application as originally filed or, where a copy of amendments to the claims under Article 19 and/or amendments of the international application under Article 34 are received by the International Preliminary Examining Authority before it has begun to draw up a written opinion or the international preliminary examination report, as so amended. | | | |
| Language for the purposes of international preliminary examination: English | | | |
| which is the language in which the international application was filed. | | | |
| which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of internati | onal search. | | |
| which is the language of publication of the international application. | | | |
| which is the language of the translation (to be) furnished for the purposes of | finternational preliminary examination. | | |
| Box No. V ELECTION OF STATES | | | |
| The applicant hereby elects all eligible States (that is, all States which have been design the PCT) | ated and which are bound by Chapter II of | | |
| excluding the following States which the applicant wishes not t elect: | | | |
| | | | |

Sheet No. .3

international application No. PCT/FI00/00746

| Box No. VI CHECK LIST | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| The demand is accompanied by the following elements, in the language referred to in Box No. IV, f r the purposes of international preliminary examination: F r Internati nal Preliminary Examining Authority use only received not received | | | | |
| 1. translation of international application | : | sheets | | |
| 2. amendments under Article 34 | : | sheets | | |
| copy (or, where required, translation) of amendments under Article 19 | : | sheets | _ 🗆 | |
| copy (or, where required, translation) of statement under Article 19 | | sheets | | |
| 5. letter | • | sheets | | |
| | • | _ |][| |
| 6. other (specify) | · · | sheets | | |
| The demand is also accompanied by the item(s) mark | ed below: | _ | | |
| 1. A fee calculation sheet | 5. | statement expla | ining lack of signatu | re |
| 2. original separate power of attorney | 6. | sequence listing | in computer readab | le form |
| 3. original general power of attorney | 7. | other (specify): | | |
| copy of general power of attorney; reference number, if any: | | | | |
| Box No. VII SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, AG | ENT OR COMM | ON REPRESENT | TATIVE | |
| Next to each signature, indicate the name of the person signing a | nd the capacity in which | the person signs (if suc | ch capacity is not obvious | from reading the demand). |
| | | | | |
| For the applicants | | Seppo | Laine Oy | |
| | | | | |
| | | a . | | |
| | | Sir | no Hovi | |
| | | | | · |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| For International | Preliminary Exami | ining Authority use | only — | |
| 1. Date of actual receipt of DEMAND: | | | | |
| 2. Adjusted date of receipt of demand due to CORRECTIONS under Rule 60.1(b): | | | | |
| The date of receipt of the demand is AFTER the expiration of 19 months from the priority date and item 4 or 5, below, does not apply. The applicant has been informed accordingly. | | | | |
| 4. The date of receipt of the demand is WI Rule 80.5. | 4. The date of receipt of the demand is WITHIN the period of 19 months from the priority date as extended by virtue of Rule 80.5. | | | |
| 5. Although the date of receipt of the demand is after the expiration of 19 months from the priority date, the delay in arrival is EXCUSED pursuant to Rule 82. | | | | |
| For International Bureau use only | | | | |
| Demand received from IPEA on: | | | | |
| | | | | |



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

| Applicant's or agent's file reference | T | San Natific | cation of Transmittal of International | | |
|--|---|-----------------------|---|--|--|
| VAL 218 PCT | FOR FURTHER ACTION Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) | | | | |
| International application No. | International filing date (| day/month/year) | Priority date (day/month/year) | | |
| PCT/F100/00746 | 01.09.2000 | | 01.09.1999 | | |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) o | International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC7 | | | | |
| D 21 H 23/48, B 05 C | 5/02 | | | | |
| · | | | | | |
| Applicant | | | | | |
| Valmet Corporation et | al | | | | |
| varmes corporation of | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| This international preliminary exa Authority and is transmitted to the | | | rnational Preliminary Examining | | |
| 2. This REPORT consists of a total of | of 4 sheets, | including this cove | r sheet | | |
| | | _ | · | | |
| | | | tion, claims and/or drawings which have ctifications made before this Authority | | |
| (see Rule 70.16 and Section | | | | | |
| These annexes consist of a total o | of 6 sheets. | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| 3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: | | | | | |
| I Basis of the report | | | | | |
| II Priority | | | | | |
| III Non-establishment of | f opinion with regard to no | velty, inventive step | and industrial applicability | | |
| IV Lack of unity of inve | ntion | | | | |
| V Reasoned statement u | under Article 35(2) with re | gard to novelty, inv | entive step or industrial applicability; | | |
| | tions supporting such state | | | | |
| VI Certain documents ci | ted | | | | |
| VII Certain defects in the | e international application | | · | | |
| VIII Certain observations | on the international applic | ation | | | |
| <u>.</u> | | | | | |
| | | <u> </u> | | | |
| Date of submission of the demand | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | Date of completion | of this report | | |
| 24.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 | | | • | | |
| 28.03.2001 | | 19.12.2001 | Ľ | | |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/SI | <u> </u> | Authorized officer | | | |
| Patent- och registreringsverket | Telex 17978 | | | | |
| S-102 42 STOCKHOLM | PATOREG-S | William He | | | |
| Facsimile No. 08-667 72 88 | | | | | |

INTERNATIONAL PREMAINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

| _ | |
|----|--------------------------|
| -{ | mational application No. |
| | PCT/F100/00746 |

| I. | Basi | s f the rep rt | |
|----|------------------|--|---|
| 1. | With | regard to the elements of the international application:* | |
| | | the international application as originally filed | |
| | \boxtimes | the description: | |
| | | pages _2 , 4 - 7 | , as originally filed |
| | | pages | , filed with the demand |
| | | pages 1,3 , filed with the letter of 15.10 | .2001 |
| | \boxtimes | the claims: | |
| | | | , as originally filed |
| | | pages, as amended (together with any state | ement) under article 19 |
| | | pages | |
| | | pages 8-11 , filed with the letter of 15.10 | .2001 |
| | | the drawings: | , as originally filed |
| | | pages 2 | |
| | | pages, filed with the letter of | , med with the demand |
| | | the sequence listing part of the description: | |
| | ш | | , as originally filed |
| | | pages pages | filed with the demand |
| | | pages, filed with the letter of | |
| 3. | the int These | regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in ternational application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language English the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)). the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (or 55.3). regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international application in written form. filed together with the international application in computer readable form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form. | which is: |
| | | The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the discledinternational application as filed has been furnished. The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written see been furnished. | • |
| 4. | | The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of: the description, pages the claims, Nos. the drawings, sheet/fig | e ^r |
| 5. | | This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2 (c)).** | been considered to go |
| * | in thi | acement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under A s report as "originally filed" and are annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (1 10.17). | Article 14 are referred to Rules 70.16 |
| ** | | replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item I and annexed to this | report. |

INTERNATIONAL PRESENTINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

Claims

Claims

YES

| V. | Reas ned statement under Article 35(2) with regard t novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citati ns and explanations supporting such statement | | | | |
|----|--|--------|------|-----|--|
| 1. | Statement | | | | |
| | Novelty (N) | Claims | 1-12 | YES | |
| | • | Claims | | NO | |
| | Inventive step (IS) | Claims | 1-12 | YES | |
| | | Claims | | NO | |

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Industrial applicability (IA)

The following documents were cited in the International Search Report:

1-12

D1: US 5 624 715 D2: US 5 340 402 D3: US 5 885 659

Document D1 discloses a method for curtain coating where an evacuating device is utilised to evacuate air carried along with the web. An air shield is disposed in front of the liquid film and the residual air is evacuated through a slot connected to a ventilator. Further, a second ventilator supplies air to a substantially closed space where the coating takes place.

Document D2 relates to a coating system for application of coating colour on a paper web. The application zone is preceded by a slat, which scrapes off the air film clinging to the paper web. An air channel through the slat vents the gap space between the web and the slat.

Through document D3, a curtain coating apparatus using an air shielding device to shield airflow accompanied by the web is known.

. . . / . . .

Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: V_

None of the documents above display an outwardly curved surface on the doctoring means in accordance with the claimed invention. Owing the outwardly curved surface of the air doctoring means, the web can be supported at the doctoring point by the doctoring means itself, hence, there is no need for a backing roll. Without the backing roll, no gap preventing the doctoring means from touching the web is required. Thereby, the distance between the web and the doctoring means can be reduced. A further advantage of the fact that the doctoring means supports the web is that the travelling direction of the web can be altered by the doctoring means.

According to the arguments stated above, the invention claimed in claims 1-12 is novel, is considered to involve an inventive step and to be industrially applicable.

1

Curtain coater and method for curtain coating

The present invention relates to curtain coater according to the preamble of claim 1 and to curtain-coating method according to the preamble of claim 10.

In a curtain coater, the coating mix is applied to the surface of a moving web of paper or board, generally from a nozzle extending over the full cross-machine width of the web and located above the web being coated, whereby the coating mix can fall onto the web surface as curtain-like shower. Curtain coating is categorized as a noncontacting coating method, wherein the applicator itself makes no contact with the web being coated, but instead, the coating mix is applied to the web surface in the form of a free-falling curtain of coating mix. The technique of curtain coating is described, e.g., in publication DE 196 22 080.

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During its travel, a moving web gathers a thin boundary layer of air that moves along with the web. In curtain coaters, the momentum of the coating mix applied to the web surface is small as compared to the momentum of the coating mix amount directed from a jet applicator, for instance, which means that the boundary air layer traveling on the web surface can easily scatter the curtain of coating mix flowing from the nozzle of a curtain coater thus making the applied coating layer uneven. With higher web speeds in the coater station, the problem is accentuated due to the faster speed of the boundary air layer and its higher momentum. Hence, the control of the

the web to the application zone. In one embodiment of the invention, the amount of the boundary air coming to the application zone is reduced by means of a suction nozzle cooperating with the air-doctoring element, whereby the boundary air layer is removed via the suction nozzle by a vacuum. Additionally, the adherence of the coating mix curtain to the web surface can be augmented by means of a gas-injection nozzle mounted downstream after the applicator nozzle in the travel direction of the web, whereby a gas jet can be directed from the gas-injection nozzle toward the coating mix curtain. Hereby, the combined momentum of the coating mix curtain and the gas jet becomes sufficiently energetic to force the coating mix to penetrate through the boundary air layer traveling on the web surface.

More specifically, the curtain coaters according to the invention are characterized by what is stated in the characterizing part of claims 1.

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Furthermore, the curtain-coating method according to the invention is characterized by what is stated in the characterizing part of claims 10.

25 The invention offers significant benefits.

In a curtain coater according to the invention, the amount of boundary air traveling on the web being coated to the application zone can be reduced significantly as compared with conventional curtain coaters, whereby the coat quality and web runnability in the coater are improved. The web speed in a curtain coater according to

Claims:

- Curtain coater for coating a moving web (2) of paper or board, the curtain coater comprising an applicator nozzle (1) located above the web (2) to be coated so as to apply the coating mix therefrom to the surface of the web (2) in the form of a continuous curtain extending uniformly over the cross-machine width of the web (2), and doctoring means (3) serving to remove the boundary 10 air layer traveling on the surface of the web (2) by being located upstream in the travel direction of the web (2) in front of the impingement point of the coating mix curtain on the surface of the web (2) and further being located on the same side of the web (2) as the applicator nozzle (1) c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the surface 15 of the doctoring means (3) facing the web is outward curved in order to support the web (2) at the doctoring point.
- 2. Curtain coater according to claim 1, c h a r a c t e r i z e d by a gas-injection nozzle (5) located downstream in the travel direction of the web (2) after the applicator nozzle (1) so as to extend over the cross-machine width of the web (2) and adapted to blow gas via said gas-injection nozzle toward the coating mix curtain being applied from the applicator nozzle (1).
 - 3. Curtain coater according to claim 1 or 2, c h a r a c t e r i z e d by a suction nozzle (4) extending over the cross-machine width of the web (2) and adapted to said doctoring means (3) so as to remove by suction the boundary air layer traveling on the surface of the web

(2).

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- 4. Curtain coater according to claim 3, c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the inlet opening (7) of the suction nozzle (4) is adapted to rear wall of the doctoring means (3).
- 5. Curtain coater according to claim 3 or 4, c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the inlet opening (7) of the suction nozzle (4) is adapted to the surface of the doctoring means (3) facing the web (2).
 - 6. Curtain coater according to any one of foregoing claims, characterized in that the surface of the doctoring means (3) facing the web (2) has a curved shape.
- 7. Curtain coater according to claim 6, c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the distance of the web (2) from the curved surface of the doctoring means (3) is in the range of 0-500 μ m.
 - 8. Curtain coater according to any one of foregoing claims, characterized in that said doctoring means (3) is a doctor bar.
 - 9. Curtain coater according to any one of foregoing claims, c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the distance along the surface of the web (2) from the doctoring point of said doctoring means (3) to the application point under said applicator nozzle (1) is less than 50 mm.

10. Curtain-coating method for coating a moving web (2) of paper or board, in which method

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- the web (2) to be coated is passed to a coater station,
 - using an applicator nozzle (1) located above the web (2), the coating mix is therefrom applied to the surface of the web (2) in the form of a continuous curtain extending uniformly over the cross-machine width of the web (2), and
- the boundary air layer traveling along with the web is removed from the surface of the web (2) facing said applicator nozzle (1) with the help of a doctoring means (3) located upstream in the travel direction of the web (2) in front of the applicator nozzle (1),
- 20 characterized in that outward curved doctoring means (3) is used in order to support the web

 (2) at the doctoring point.
- 11. Curtain-coating method according to claim 10,
 25 characterized in that gas is blown toward
 the coating mix curtain being applied from the applicator
 nozzle (1) from a gas-injection nozzle (5) that is located downstream in the travel direction of the web (2)
 after the applicator nozzle (1) and is adapted to extend
 over the cross-machine width of the web (2).
 - 12. Curtain-coating method according to claim 10 or 11,

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c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the boundary air layer traveling on the surface of the web (2) is removed by suction applied by a suction nozzle (4) adapted to said doctoring means (3).

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| 0 | For receiving Office us nly | | |
|-----------------|--|---|--|
| 0-1 | International Application No. | PCT/FI 0 0 / 0 0 7 4 | |
| 0-2 | International Filing Date | 0 1 SEP 2000 (0 1 -09- 2000) | |
| 0-3 | Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application" | The Finnish Patent Office PCT International Application | |
|)-4 | Form - PCT/RO/101 PCT Request | 1 | |
| 0-4-1 | Prepared using | PCT-EASY Version 2.91 (updated 01.07.2000) | |
| 0-5 | Petition The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty | | |
| 0-6 | Receiving Office (specified by the applicant) | National Board of Patents and Registration (Finland) (RO/FI) | |
| 0-7 | Applicant's or agent's file reference | VAL 218 PCT | |
| | Title of invention | CURTAIN COATER AND METHOD FOR CURTAIN COATING | |
| 1 | Applicant | | |
| i-1 | This person is: | applicant only | |
| I-2 | Applicant for | all designated States except US | |
| I-4 | Name | VALMET CORPORATION | |
| 1-5 | Address: | Fabianinkatu 9 A | |
| | | FIN-00130 Helsinki | |
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| 1-6 | State of nationality | FI | |
| I-7 | State of residence | FI | |
| I-8 | Telephone No. | +358-020 484 100 | |
| 1-9 | Facsimile No. | +358-020 484 101 | |
| II-1 | Applicant and/or inventor | | |
| II-1-1 | This person is: | applicant and inventor | |
| 11-1-2 | Applicant for | US only | |
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| | | Apt 6 Appleton | |
| | | Appleton, WI 54914 | |
| | | United States of America | |
| II-1-6 | State of nationality | FI | |
| III-1-7 | State of residence | us | |

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| III-2 | Applicant and/ r inv nt r | | |
|---------|--|---|--|
| III-2-1 | This person is: | applicant and inventor | |
| 111-2-2 | Applicant for | US only | |
| 111-2-4 | Name (LAST, First) | KOSKINEN, Jukka | |
| III-2-5 | Address: | Vehkatie 89 | |
| | | FIN-04400 Järvenpää | |
| | | Finland | |
| III-2-6 | State of nationality | FI | |
| 111-2-7 | State of residence | FI | |
| IV-1 | Agent or common representative; or address for correspondence The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on behalf of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as: | agent | |
| IV-1-1 | Name | SEPPO LAINE OY | |
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| IV-1-5 | e-mail | seppo.laine@selpat.fi | |
| v | Designation of States | | |
| V-1 | Regional Patent (other kinds of protection or treatment, if any, are specified between parentheses after the designation(s) concerned) | AP: GH GM KE LS MW MZ SD SL SZ TZ UG ZW and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Harare Protocol and of the PCT EA: AM AZ BY KG KZ MD RU TJ TM and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Eurasian Patent Convention and of the PCT EP: AT BE CH&LI CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LU MC NL PT SE and any other State which is a Contracting State of the European Patent Convention and of the PCT OA: BF BJ CF CG CI CM GA GN GW ML MR NE SN TD TG and any other State which is a member State of OAPI and a Contracting State of the PCT | |

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| DE (patent and utility model) DK (patent and utility model) DK DZ EE (patent and utility model) ES FI (patent and utility model) GB GD GE GH GM HR HU ID IL IN IS JP KE KG KP KR KZ LC LK LR LS LT LU LV MA MD MG MK MN MW MX MZ NO NZ PL PT RO RU SD SE SG SI SK (patent and utility model) SL TJ TM TR TT TZ UA UG US UZ VN YU ZA ZW V-5 Precautionary Designation Statement in addition to the designations made into the designations made into the designations made into make surder Rule 4.9(b) all designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designations of the State(s) midicated under item V-6 below. The applicant declares that those additional designations which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. V-6 Exclusion(s) from precautionary designations Film gdate O1 September 1999 (01.09.1999) VI-1-2 Priority document request The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 International Searching Authority Cheek list Publication Cheek list Publicat | V-2 | National Patent (other kinds of protection or treatm nt, if any, are specified between parentheses after the designation(s) concerned) | AE AG AL AM AT (patent and utility model) AU AZ BA BB BG BR BY BZ CA CH&LI CN CR CU CZ (patent and utility model) |
|--|--------|--|---|
| model) GB GD GE GH GM HR HU ID IL IN IS JP KE KG KP KR KZ LC LK LR LS LT LU LV MA MD MG MK MN MW MX MZ NO NZ PL PT RO RU SD SE SG SI SK (patent and utility model) SL TJ TM TR TT TZ UA UG US UZ VN YU ZA ZW V-5 Precautionary Designation Statement in addition to the designations made under tieme V-1, V-2 and V-3, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all designations with would be permitted under the PCT except any designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. V-6 Exclusion(s) from precautionary designations Vi-1-1 Priority claim of earlier national application Filing date O1 September 1999 (01.09.1999) 19991863 FI VI-1-2 Priority document request The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 Priority Chosen VIII-1 Request 4 - Vuil-2 Description 6 | | | DE (patent and utility model) DK (patent and utility model) DM DZ EE (patent and |
| MA MD MG MK MN MW MX MZ NO NZ PL PT RO RU SD SE SG SI SK (patent and utility model) SL TJ TM TR TT TZ UA UG US UZ VN YU ZA ZW V-5 Precautionary Designation Statement In addition to the designations made under items V-1, V-2 and V-3, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. V-6 Exclusion(s) from precautionary designations VI-1 Priority claim of earlier national application SU-1-1 Filing date O1 September 1999 (01.09.1999) Number 19991863 VI-1-2 Priority document request The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 International Searching Authority Chosen VIII Request 4 Description 6 - VIII-2 Abstract 1 Val 218pct.txt Val 228 VI val 218pct.txt VIII-4 Abstract 1 Val 218pct.txt | | | |
| RU SD SE SG SI SK (patent and utility model) SL TJ TM TR TT TZ UA UG US UZ VN YU ZA ZW Precautionary Designation Statement In addition to the designations made under items V-1, V-2 and V-3, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designations of the State(s) indicated under item V-6 below. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. | | | |
| W-5 Precautionary Designation Statement In addition to the designations made under items V-1, V-2 and V-3, the applicant also makes under Rule 4-9(b) all designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) of the State(s) indicated under item V-6 below. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. V-6 Exclusion(s) from precautionary designation designations VI-1 Priority claim of earlier national application Filing date VI-1-3 Country Priority document request The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 International Searching Authority Chosen VIII-1 Check list Request 4 - UIII-2 Description 6 - Claims 4 - Val 218pct . txt ViII-4 Abstract 1 Val 22 VII TM TR TT TZ UA UG US US UN VII TR TT TZ UA UG US US US VN VII TR TT TZ UA UG US US US VN VII TR TT TZ UA UG US US US VN VII TR TT TZ UA UG US US US VN VII TR TT TZ UA US US US VN VII TR TT TZ UA US US US US VN VII TR TT TZ UA US US US US VN VII TR TT TZ UA US US US US VN VII TR TT TZ UA US | | | |
| V-5 Precautionary Designation Statement In addition to the designations made under items V-1, V-2 and V-3, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) of the State(s) indicated under item V-5 below. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. V-6 Exclusion(s) from precautionary designation of that time limit. V-7 Priority claim of earlier national application VI-1-1 Filing date VI-1-2 Number VI-1-3 Country Priority document request The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 International Searching Authority VIII-1 Chock list Request Perceiving Claims VIII-2 Description Claims VIII-3 Abstract VIII-4 Abstract VIII-5 Drawings PU Z X ZW VI Z X ZW VI Z A ZW VI 2 A ZW VI 2 A ZW VII 2 A ZW VII 2 A J Chock I application and value application (and value) and value application (and value) and value application of the design and value and v | | | _ |
| In addition to the designations made under items V-1, V-2 and V-3, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation (s) of the State(s) indicated under item V-6 below. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. V-6 | | | _ |
| under items V-1, V-2 and V-3, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation (s) of the State(s) indicated under item V-6 below. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. V-6 Exclusion(s) from precautionary designations VI-1 Priority claim of earlier national application VI-1-1.3 Country VI-2 Priority document request The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 International Searching Authority Chosen VIII-1 Check list number of sheets electronic file(s) attached VIII-2 Description 6 VIII-3 Claims 4 VIII-4 Abstract 1 val218pct.txt VIII-5 Drawings | V-5 | 1 - | |
| applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) of the State(s) indicated under item V-6 below. The applicant declares that those additional designation are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. V-6 | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | |
| permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) of the State(s) indicated under item V-6 below. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. V-6 | | applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) | |
| designation(s) of the State(s) indicated under item V-6 below. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. V-6 Exclusion(s) from precautionary designations VI-1 Priority claim of earlier national application VI-1-1 Filling date VI-1-2 Number VI-1-2 Country Priority document request The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 International Searching Authority Chosen VIII-1 Check list Request VIII-2 Description Claims 4 - ViII-3 Claims Val 218pct.txt VIII-5 Drawings | | | |
| declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. V-6 Exclusion(s) from precautionary designations VI-1 Priority claim of earlier national application plants application VI-1-1 Filing date VI-1-2 Number VI-1-3 Country VI-2 Priority document request The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 International Searching Authority Chosen VIII Check list VIII-1 Request VIII-2 Description 6 | | | |
| designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. V-6 Exclusion(s) from precautionary designations VI-1 Priority claim of earlier national applications VI-1-1-1 Filling date VI-1-2 Number VI-1-3 Country VI-2 Priority document request The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 International Searching Authority Chosen VIII-1 Request VIII-2 Description Claims 4 | | | |
| and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. V-6 Exclusion(s) from precautionary designations VI-1 Priority claim of earlier national application VI-1-1 Filing date VI-1-2 Number VI-1-3 Country VI-1 Priority document request The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 International Searching Authority Chosen VIII-1 Request VIII-1 Request VIII-2 Description 6 - VIII-3 Claims 4 - Val218pct.txt VIII-4 Abstract VIII-5 Drawings | | | |
| months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. V-6 | | and that any designation which is not | |
| regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. V-6 Exclusion(s) from precautionary designations VI-1 Priority claim of earlier national application VI-1-1 Filing date VI-1-2 Number VI-1-3 Country VI-1-3 Country VI-1 Priority document request The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 International Searching Authority Chosen VIII Check list Nequest 4 - VIII-1 Request 4 - VIII-2 Description 6 - Claims 4 - Abstract I val218pct.txt VIII-5 Drawings | | | |
| at the expiration of that time limit. V-6 | | | |
| designations | | at the expiration of that time limit. | |
| Application Filing date O1 September 1999 (01.09.1999) | | designations | NONE |
| VI-1-1 Filing date VI-1-2 Number VI-1-3 Country VI-2 Priority document request The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 International Searching Authority Chosen VIII Check list number of sheets electronic file(s) attached VIII-1 Request 4 - VIII-2 Description 6 - VIII-3 Claims 4 - VIII-4 Abstract 1 val218pct.txt VIII-5 Drawings 2 - | VI-1 | | |
| VI-1-2 Number VI-1-3 Country FI VI-2 Priority document request The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 International Searching Authority Chosen VIII Check list number of sheets electronic file(s) attached VIII-1 Request 4 - VIII-2 Description 6 - VIII-3 Claims 4 - VIII-4 Abstract 1 val218pct.txt VIII-5 Drawings 2 - | VI-1-1 | 1 7 7 | 01 September 1999 (01.09.1999) |
| VI-2 Priority document request The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 International Searching Authority Chosen VIII Check list number of sheets electronic file(s) attached VIII-1 Request 4 - VIII-2 Description 6 - VIII-3 Claims 4 - VIII-4 Abstract 1 val218pct.txt VIII-5 Drawings 2 - | VI-1-2 | Number | |
| The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 International Searching Authority Chosen VIII-1 Request VIII-1 Request VIII-2 Description VIII-3 Claims VIII-4 Abstract VIII-5 Drawings VII-1 VIII-1 | VI-1-3 | Country | FI |
| prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 International Searching Authority Chosen VIII Check list number of sheets electronic file(s) attached VIII-1 Request 4 - VIII-2 Description 6 - VIII-3 Claims 4 - VIII-4 Abstract 1 val218pct.txt VIII-5 Drawings 2 - | VI-2 | Priority document request | |
| Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): VII-1 International Searching Authority Chosen VIII Check list number of sheets electronic file(s) attached VIII-1 Request 4 - VIII-2 Description 6 - VIII-3 Claims 4 - VIII-4 Abstract 1 val218pct.txt VIII-5 Drawings 2 - | | | VI-1 |
| Item(s): | | F - F | |
| ViII Check list number of sheets electronic file(s) attached VIII-1 Request 4 - VIII-2 Description 6 - VIII-3 Claims 4 - VIII-4 Abstract 1 val218pct.txt VIII-5 Drawings 2 - | | 1 '' | |
| VIII-1 Request 4 - VIII-2 Description 6 - VIII-3 Claims 4 - VIII-4 Abstract 1 val218pct.txt VIII-5 Drawings 2 - | | Chosen | |
| VIII-2 Description 6 - VIII-3 Claims 4 - VIII-4 Abstract 1 val218pct.txt VIII-5 Drawings 2 - | | | |
| VIII-3 Claims 4 - VIII-4 Abstract 1 val218pct.txt VIII-5 Drawings 2 - | | | |
| VIII-4 Abstract 1 val218pct.txt VIII-5 Drawings 2 - | | <u>'</u> | |
| VIII-5 Drawings 2 - | | | |
| | | | |
| VIII-7 TOTAL 17 | VIII-5 | Drawings | 2 - |
| | VIII-7 | TOTAL | 17 |



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| | Accompanying items | paper document(s) attached | electronic file(s) attached |
|------|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| -8 | F e calculation sheet | ✓ | - |
| -9 | Separate signed power of attorney | ✓ | - |
| 16 | PCT-EASY diskette | - | diskette |
| -17 | Other (specified): | Copy of official | - |
| | | action | |
| I-18 | Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract | | • |
| -19 | Language of filing of the international application | Finnish | |
| 1 | Signature of applicant or agent | 1-9. | |
| 1-1 | Name | SEPPO LAINE OY | |
| 1-2 | Name of signatory | Simo Hovi | |
| 1-3 | Capacity | Patent Agent | |

FOR RECEIVING OFFICE USE ONLY

| 10-1 | Date of actual receipt of the purported international application | | 0 1 SEP 2000 | (0 1 -09- 2009) |
|--------|---|--------|--------------|-------------------|
| 10-2 | Drawings: | | | - |
| 10-2-1 | Received | | | |
| 10-2-2 | Not received | | | |
| 10-3 | Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application | | | |
| 10-4 | Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2) | | | |
| 10-5 | International Searching Authority | ISA/SE | | |
| 10-6 | Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid | | | |

FOR INTERNATIONAL BUREAU USE ONLY

| 11-1 | Date of receipt of the record copy by the International Bureau | 2 6 SEPTEMBER 2000 | (26.09.00) |
|------|--|--------------------|--------------|
| | | | |

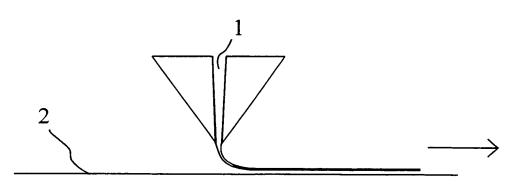


Fig. 1

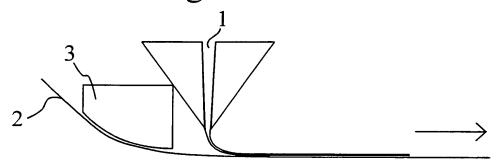


Fig. 2

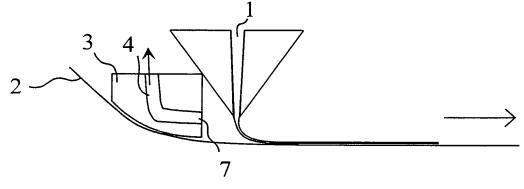


Fig. 3

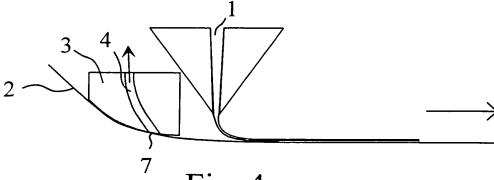


Fig. 4

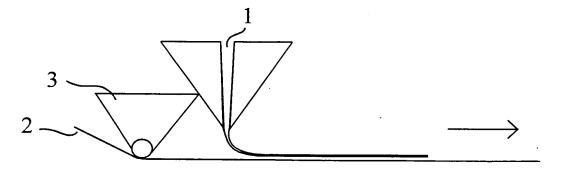


Fig. 5

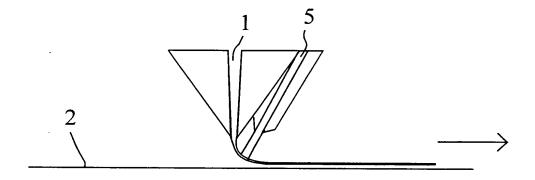


Fig. 6

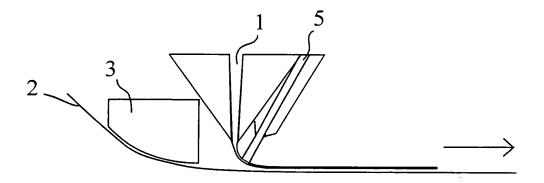


Fig. 7



Verhopäällystin ja verhopäällystysmenetelmä

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Tämän keksinnön kohteina ovat patenttivaatimusten 1 ja 2 johdantojen mukaiset verhopäällystimet ja patenttivaatimusten 11 ja 12 johdantojen mukaiset verhopäällystysmenetelmät.

Verhopäällystimessä päällysteseosta applikoidaan liikkuvan paperi- tai kartonkirainan pinnalle yleensä päällystettävän rainan yläpuolelle sijoitetusta, rainan levyisestä suuttimesta, jolloin päällysteseos putoaa rainan pinnalle verhomaisena suihkuna. Verhopäällystys on ns. kosketukseton päällystysmenetelmä, jossa itse applikointilaite ei kosketa päällystettävää rainaa ollenkaan vaan päällysteseos applikoidaan vapaasti rainan pinnalle. Verhopäällystystä on kuvattu mm. julkaisussa DE 196 22 080.

Liikkuvan rainan pinnalle muodostuu ohut ilmakerros, joka kulkee rainan mukana. Verhopäällystimissä rainan pinnalle applikoitavan päällysteseoksen liikemäärä on pieni esimerkiksi jet-päällystimestä applikoitavan päällysteseoksen liikemäärään verrattuna, minkä takia rainan mukana kulkeva rajakerrosilma hajottaa helposti verhopäällystimen suuttimesta applikoitavan päällysteseosverhon, jolloin päällysteseoskerroksesta muodostuu epätasainen. Päällystysaseman ajonopeuden kasvaessa ongelma pahenee entisestään, koska rajakerrosilman nopeus ja liikemäärä lisääntyvät. Ajonopeuden kasvaessa rajakerrosilman hallinta onkin yksi merkittävimmistä verhopäällystimen ajettavuuteen vaikuttavista ominaisuuksista.

Rajakerrosilman aiheuttamaa ongelmaa voidaan vähentää esimerkiksi kasvattamalla päällysteseoksen putouskorkeutta ja sitä kautta nopeutta tai lisäämällä applikoitavan päällysteseoksen määrää, jolloin päällysteseoksen liikemäärää lisääntyy ja päällysteverho tunkeutuu helpommin rainan pinnalla olevan ilmakerroksen läpi. Päällysteverhon putouskorkeutta ei kuitenkaan yleensä voida lisätä riittävästi, koska päällysteverho alkaa kuroutua ja hajota putouskorkeuden kasvaessa. Lisäksi applikoitavan päällysteseoksen määrää lisättäessä on rainan pinnalta kaavittava ylimääräinen päällysteseos pois.

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Tämän keksinnön tarkoituksena on saada aikaan aivan uudenlainen verhopäällystin ja verhopäällystysmenetelmä, joilla rajakerrosilman tunkeutumista verhopäällystimen applikointialueelle voidaan oleellisesti vähentää.

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Keksintö perustuu siihen, että päällystettävän rainan kulkusuunnassa ennen applikointikohtaa sijoitetaan kaavinelin, jolla rainan pinnalla olevaa rajakerrosilmaa poistetaan.

Kaavinelin vähentää huomattavasti rainan mukana applikointialueelle tulevaa ilmamäärää. Yhdessä keksinnön sovellusmuodossa applikointialueelle tulevan rajakerrosilman määrää vähennetään kaavinelimessä olevalla imuyhteellä, jonka kautta rainan pinnalla olevaa rajakerrosilmaa imetään pois.

Päällysteseosverhon kiinnittymistä rainan pinnalle voidaan lisäksi parantaa rainan kulkusuunnassa applikointisuuttimen jälkeen sijoitettavalla kaasusuuttimella, josta puhallettava kaasusuihku on suunnattu kohti päällysteseosverhoa. Tällöin päällysteseosverhon ja kaasusuihkun yhteenlaskettu liikemäärä riittää painamaan päällysteseoksen rainan pinnalla olevan ilmakerroksen läpi.



Täsmällisemmin sanottuna keksinnön mukaisille verhopäällystimille on tunnusomaista se, mikä on esitetty patenttivaatimusten 1 ja 2 tunnusmerkkiosissa.

5 Keksinnön mukaisille verhopäällystysmenetelmille puolestaan on tunnusomaista se, mikä on esitetty patenttivaatimusten 11 ja 12 tunnusmerkkiosissa.

Keksinnön avulla saavutetaan huomattavia etuja.

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Keksinnön mukaisessa verhopäällystimessä päällystettävän rainan mukana applikointialueelle kulkevan rajakerrosilman määrä vähenee huomattavasti tavanomaisiin verhopäällystimin verrattuna, minkä ansiosta päällystimen päällystysjälki ja ajettavuus paranevat. Keksinnön mukaisen verhopäällystimen ajonopeutta voidaan helposti kasvattaa, koska rajakerrosilmaa pystytään tehokkaasti poistamaan rainan pinnalta ennen applikointia.

20 Keksintöä kuvataan seuraavassa tarkemmin viittaamalla oheisiin piirustuksiin.

Kuvio 1 esittää kaaviollisesti tavanomaisen verhopäällystimen poikkileikkausta.

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Kuviot 2-7 esittävät kaaviollisesti keksinnön mukaisen verhopäällystimen eri sovellusmuotojen poikkileikkauksia.

Kuviossa 1 esitetty tavanomainen verhopäällystin käsittää rainan 2 yläpuolella olevan rainan 2 leveyssuuntaisen applikointisuuttimen 1, josta päällysteseosta applikoidaan liikkuvan rainan 2 pinnalle. Rainan 2 kulkusuunta on merkitty nuolella. Rainan 2 pinnalla kulkeva rajakerrosilma

kääntää suuttimesta 1 applikoitavaa päällysteseosverhoa rainan 2 kulkusuuntaan. Ajonopeuden ollessa riittävän suuri kaikki päällysteseosverho hajoaa ja osa päällysteseoksesta kulkee rajakerrosilman mukana rainan 1 kulkusuuntaan, jolloin rainan 2 pinnalle muodostuu kohtia, joissa ei ole päällystettä lainkaan.

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Kuviossa 2 verhopäällystimen applikointisuuttimen 1 applikointialueen eteen on rainan 2 kulkusuunnassa sijoitettu kaarevapintainen, rainan 2 leveyssuuntainen kaavinelin 3, joka hajottaa rainan pinnalla 2 kulkevan rajakerrosilman ja vähentää päällystysjälkeä heikentävän ilman kulkeutumista applikointialueelle. Kaavinelin 3 on sijoitettu siten, että sen kaareva pinta on rainan 2 yläpuolella. Liikkuvan rainan 2 ja kaavinelimen 3 väliin muodostuu yleensä ilmakerros, jonka paksuuteen vaikuttavat mm. rainan 2 nopeus ja kaavinelimen kaarevan osan kaarevuussäde. Tavallisesti rainan 2 ja kaavinelimen 3 kaarevan osan väliin jäävän ilmakerroksen paksuus on noin 0-500 µm. Kaavinelimen 3 vasten rainaa 2 olevan kaarevan osan loppukohta on edullista sijoittaa mahdollisimman lähelle suuttimen 1 applikointikohdan alkua, koska rainan 2 pinnalla oleva ilmakerros muodostuu nopeasti uudestaan kaavinelimen 3 jälkeisellä vapaalla osuudella. Ilmakerros saattaa kehittyä alkuperäiseen paksuuteensa jo 50 mm:n matkalla.

Kuvion 3 sovellusmuodossa kuviossa 2 kuvattuun kaavinelimeen 3 on lisätty rainan 2 leveyssuuntainen imukanava 4, jonka suuaukko 7 on sijoitettu kaavinelimen 3 takaosaan. Rainan 2 pinnalla olevaa rajakerrosilmaa imetään imukanavaan 4.



Kuviossa 4 imukanavan 4 suuaukko 7 on sijoitettu kaavinelimen 3 kaarevaan, rainan 2 kanssa vastakkain olevaan pintaan.

5 Kuviossa 5 kaavinelimenä käytetään ennen applikointisuuttimen 1 applikointialuetta sijoitettua sauvakaavinta 3, jonka
sauva koskettaa liikkuvaa rainaa 2 ja estää rainan 2 pinnalla olevan rajakerrosilman kulkeutumisen applikointialueelle.

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Kuvion 6 sovellusmuodossa rainan 2 kulkusuunnassa päällysteseoksen applikointisuuttimen 1 jälkeen on sijoitettu rainan 2 leveyssuuntainen kaasusuutin 5, josta puhalletaan kaasua kohti applikointisuuttimesta putoavaa päällysteseosverhoa. Tässä keksinnössä kaasulla tarkoitetaan kaikkia kaasufaasissa olevia aineita, kuten ilmaa, muita kaasuja ja vesihöyryä. Kun kaasusuuttimesta 5 tulevan kaasusuihkun ja päällysteseosverhossa olevan päällysteseoksen yhteenlaskettu liikemäärä on riittävän suuri verrattuna liikkuvan rainan 2 pinnalla olevan rajakerrosilman liikemäärään, päällysteseosverho kiinnittyy rainan 2 pinnalle. Applikointisuuttimesta 1 ja kaasusuuttimesta 5 tulevat suihkut kohtaavat toisensa ennen kuin päällysteseosverho osuu rainaan 2. Kaasusuuttimen 5 toimintapainetta muuttamalla voidaan kontrolloida päällysteseoksen kiinnittymistä rainan 2 pinnalle.

Kuvion 7 sovellusmuodossa on kuviossa 6 kuvattuun sovellusmuotoon lisätty rainan 2 pinnalla olevaa rajakerrosilmaa poistava, rainan 2 kulkusuunnassa ennen applikointisuutinta 1 oleva kaavinelin 3. Tällöin kaavinelin 3 poistaa osan rajakerrosilmasta ja kaasusuutin 5 varmistaa päällysteseosverhon kiinnittymisen rainan 2 pinnalle.

Keksinnöllä on myös edellä kuvatusta poikkeavia sovellusmuotoja.

5 Kaavinelimenä 3 voidaan käyttää myös pientä telaa, joka pyörii tai on paikallaan. Myös edellä esitettyjen sovellusmuotojen erilaiset muunnelmat ovat mahdollisia. Esimerkiksi kuviossa 7 esitetyn sovellusmuodon kaavinelimeen 3 voidaan tarvittaessa lisätä kuvioiden 3 ja 4 sovellusmuodoissa kuvatut imuyhteet 4 rainan 2 pinnalla olevan rajakerrosilman poiston tehostamiseksi.

Patenttivaatimukset:

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- 1. Verhopäällystin liikkumaan sovitetun paperi- tai kartonkirainan (2) päällystämiseksi, joka verhopäällystin käsittää päällystettävän rainan (2) yläpuolelle sovitetun
 applikointisuuttimen (1), josta päällysteseos on sovitettu applikoitavaksi rainan (2) pinnalle yhtenäisenä
 rainan (2) leveyssuuntaisena verhona, tunnettu rainan (2) pinnalla olevan rajakerrosilman poistamiseen
 tarkoitetusta, rainan (2) kulkusuunnassa ennen päällysteseoksen rainan (2) pinnalle osumakohtaa sovitetusta
 kaavinelimestä (3), joka on sovitettu samalle puolelle
 rainaa (2) kuin applikointisuutin (1).
- Verhopäällystin liikkumaan sovitetun paperi- tai kartonkirainan (2) päällystämiseksi, joka verhopäällystin käsittää päällystettävän rainan (2) yläpuolelle sovitetun applikointisuuttimen (1), josta päällysteseos on sovitettu applikoitavaksi rainan (2) pinnalle yhtenäisenä rainan (2) leveyssuuntaisena verhona, tunnettu rainan (2) kulkusuunnassa applikointisuuttimen (1) jälkeen sovitetusta rainan (2) leveyssuuntaisesta kaasusuuttimesta (5), joka on sovitettu puhaltamaan kaasua applikointisuuttimesta (1) applikoitavaa päällysteseosverhoa kohti.
- Patenttivaatimuksen 1 mukainen verhopäällystin, tunnettu rainan (2) kulkusuunnassa applikointisuuttimen
 (1) jälkeen sovitetusta rainan (2) leveyssuuntaisesta
 kaasusuuttimesta (5), joka on sovitettu puhaltamaan kaasua applikointisuuttimesta (1) applikoitavaa päällysteseosverhoa kohti.



4. Patenttivaatimuksen 1 tai 3 mukainen verhopäällystin, tunnettu kaavinelimeen (3) sovitetusta rainan (2) leveyssuuntaisesta, rainan (2) pinnalla olevan rajakerrosilman imemiseen tarkoitetusta imuyhteestä (4).

- 5. Patenttivaatimuksen 4 mukainen verhopäällystin, tunnettu siitä, että imuyhteen (4) imupää (6) on sovitettu kaavinelimen (3) takaseinään.
- 10 6. Patenttivaatimuksen 4 tai 5 mukainen verhopäällystin, tunnettu siitä, että imuyhteen (4) imupää (6) on sovitettu kaavinelimen (3) rainan (2) kanssa vastakkain sovitettuun pintaan.
- 7. Jonkin edellä olevan patenttivaatimuksen mukainen verhopäällystin, tunnettu siitä, että kaavinelimen (3) rainan (2) kanssa vastakkain sovitettu pinta on kaareva.
- 8. Patenttivaatimuksen 7 mukainen verhopäällystin, tun nettu siitä, että rainan (2) etäisyys kaavinelimen
 (3) kaarevasta pinnasta on 0-500 μm.
- 9. Jonkin edellä olevan patenttivaatimuksen mukainen verhopäällystin, tunnettu siitä, että kaavinelin (3) on

 25 sauvakaavin.
- 10. Jonkin edellä olevan patenttivaatimuksen mukainen verhopäällystin, tunnettu siitä, että kaavinelimen (3) kaavintakohdan ja applikointisuuttimen (1) applikointikohdan välinen etäisyys rainan (2) pinnalla on alle 50 mm.



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- 11. Verhopäällystysmenetelmä liikkuvan paperi- tai kartonkirainan (2) päällystämiseksi, jossa menetelmässä
 - tuodaan päällystettävä raina (2) päällystysasemalle, ja
 - applikoidaan rainan (2) yläpuolelle sovitetulla applikointisuuttimella (1) päällysteseosta rainan (2) pinnalle yhtenäisenä rainan (2) leveyssuuntaisena verhona,

tunnettu siitä, että poistetaan rainan (2) applikointisuuttimen (1) puoleisella pinnalla olevaa rajakerrosilmaa rainan (2) kulkusuunnassa ennen applikointisuutinta (1) sovitetulla kaavinelimellä (3).

- 12. Verhopäällystysmenetelmä liikkuvan paperi- tai kartonkirainan (2) päällystämiseksi, jossa menetelmässä
- tuodaan päällystettävä raina (2) päällystysasemalle, ja
 - applikoidaan rainan (2) yläpuolelle sovitetulla applikointisuuttimella (1) päällysteseosta rainan (2) pinnalle yhtenäisenä rainan (2) leveyssuuntaisena verhona,

tunnettu siitä, että puhalletaan rainan (2) kulkusuunnassa applikointisuuttimen (1) jälkeen sovitetusta rainan (2) leveyssuuntaisesta kaasusuuttimesta (5) kaasua applikointisuuttimesta (1) applikoitavaa päällysteseosverhoa kohti.

- 13. Patenttivaatimuksen 11 mukainen verhopäällystysmenetelmä, tunnettu siitä, että puhalletaan rainan (2) kulkusuunnassa applikointisuuttimen (1) jälkeen sovitetulla rainan (2) leveyssuuntaisella kaasusuuttimella (5) kaasua applikointisuuttimesta (1) applikoitavaa päällysteseosverhoa kohti.
- 14. Patenttivaatimuksen 11 tai 13 mukainen verhopäällystysmenetelmä, tunnettu siitä, että imetään rainan (2)

 10 pinnalla olevaa rajakerrosilmaa kaavinelimeen (3) sovitetulla imuyhteellä (4).

(57) Tiivistelmä:

Tämä kekisintö koskee verhopäällystintä ja verhopäällystysmenetelmää liikkumaan sovitetun paperi- tai kartonkirainan (2) päällystämiseksi. Verhopäällystin käsittää päällystettävän rainan yläpuolelle (2) sovitetun applikointisuuttimen (1), josta päällysteseosta applikoidaan rainan (2) pinnalle yhtenäisenä rainan (2) leveyssuuntaisena verhona. Rainan (2) pinnalla olevaa rajakerrosilmaa poistetaan rainan (2) kulkusuunnassa ennen päällysteseoksen rainan (2) pinnalle osumakohtaa sovitetulla kaavinelimellä (3), joka on sovitettu samalle puolelle rainaa (2) kuin applikointisuutin (1).



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| 0-1 | International Application No. | |
| 0-2 | International Filing Date | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| | | |
| 0-3 | Name of receiving Office and "PCT | |
| , | International Application* | |
| | | |
| 0-4 | Form - PCT/RO/101 PCT Request | |
| 0-4-1 | Prepared using | PCT-EASY Version 2.91 |
| | | (updated 01.07.2000) |
| 0-5 | Petition | (apadoca obtonible) |
| | The undersigned requests that the | |
| | present international application be processed according to the Patent | |
| | Cooperation Treaty | |
| 0-6 | Receiving Office (specified by the | National Board of Patents and |
| | applicant) | Registration (Finland) (RO/FI) |
| 0-7 | Applicant's or agent's file reference | VAL 218 PCT |
| 1 | Title of invention | CURTAIN COATER AND METHOD FOR CURTAIN |
| | | COATING |
| 11 | Applicant | |
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| | | hereby/has been appointed to act on | agent |
| | | behalf of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as: | |
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| | V-1 | Regional Patent | AP: GH GM KE LS MW MZ SD SL SZ TZ UG ZW |
| | ٠. | (other kinds of protection or treatment, if any, are specified between parentheses | and any other State which is a |
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| V-2 | National Patent (other kinds of protection or treatment, if any, are specified between parentheses after the designation(s) concerned) | . | | |
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| | alter the designation(s) concerned) | · · | - : | |
| | | DE (patent and utili | _ | |
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| | | model) GB GD GE GH G | M HR HU ID IL IN IS | |
| | | JP KE KG KP KR KZ LC | LK LR LS LT LU LV | |
| | | MA MD MG MK MN MW MX | MZ NO NZ PL PT RO | |
| | | RU SD SE SG SI SK (p | · · · · | |
| • | · | model) SL TJ TM TR T | | |
| | · | | 1 12 OR OG OD OZ VN | |
| | | YU ZA ZW | | |
| V-5 | Precautionary Designation Statement In addition to the designations made | | | |
| | under items V-1, V-2 and V-3, the | | | |
| | applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) | | | |
| | all designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any | | • | |
| | designation(s) of the State(s) indicated | | | |
| | under item V-6 below. The applicant | | | |
| | declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation | | | |
| | and that any designation which is not | • | | |
| | confirmed before the expiration of 15 | | | |
| | months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant | * * | | |
| | at the expiration of that time limit. | | | |
| V-6 | Exclusion(s) from precautionary designations | NONE | | |
| Vi-1 | Priority claim of earlier national | | | |
| VI-1-1 | application Filing date | 01 September 1999 (0 | 1 00 1000) | |
| | | _ | 1.09.1999) | |
| VI-1-2 | Number | 19991863 | | |
| VI-1-3 | Country | FI | | |
| VI-2 | Priority document request | | | |
| | The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International | VI-1 | | |
| | Bureau a certified copy of the earlier | | | |
| | application(s) identified above as item(s): | | | |
| VII-1 | International Searching Authority Chosen | Swedish Patent Office (ISA/SE) | | |
| VIII | Check list | number of sheets | electronic file(s) attached | |
| VIII-1 | Request | 4 | - | |
| VIII-2 | Description | 6 | - | |
| VIII-3 | Claims | 4 | - | |
| VIII-4 | Abstract | 1 | val218pct.txt | |
| VIII-5 | Drawings | 2 | - | |
| VIII-7 | TOTAL | 17 | | |

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| | Acc mpanying it ms | paper document(s) attached | el ctronic file(s) attached |
|---------|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| VIII-8 | Fee calculation sheet | | |
| VIII-9 | Separate signed power of attorney | · · | - |
| VIII-16 | PCT-EASY diskette | - | diskette |
| VIII-17 | Other (specified): | Copy of official | – |
| | | action | |
| VIII-18 | Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract | | |
| VIII-19 | Language of filing of the international application | Finnish | |
| IX-1 | Signature of applicant or agent | | |
| | | | |
| IX-1-1 | Name | SEPPO LAINE OY | |
| IX-1-2 | Name of signatory | Simo Hovi | |
| IX-1-3 | Capacity | Patent Agent | |

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